

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
September 13, 2021

The first meeting of September of the Council of The Borough of Wilson was held in person at the Strausser Community Center. Council President Verenna called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

John Burke	Justin Woodring
James Klass	Russell Lipari
James McGowan	Tony Verenna

ABSENT: Jeffrey Bracken, Scott Palinkas, Pam Taylor

Also present were Solicitor Stanley Margle, Borough Manager Jill Garcia, Police Chief Christian Meehan, Fire Chief Joseph Sipel, Public Works Supervisor Eric Flowers and Code Officer Emanuel Machado .

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approve Council Meeting minutes from August 9, 2021. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia received a request from X-Golf Lehigh Valley of 80 Kunkle Dr., Easton, PA to purchase and have directional signs placed at the intersection of 25th Street and Route 22. Solicitor Margle advised a motion is not required.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Verenna advised Council that Mr. Eric Flowers, Public Works Supervisor has been placing warning hangtags on residents that have high grass, garbage out on the wrong day, etc.

Mr. Verenna advised Council that budget meetings will start in October.

Mr. Verenna advised the Office will be looking into contract help for the Code Department.

Mr. Verenna advised Council all the electrical work done for the 2020 Celebration has passed inspection.

CAUCUS:

Council entered Caucus at 7:33 pm.
Council returned from Caucus at 8:09 pm.

Personnel and Litigation matters were discussed.

A motion made by Mr. Lipari to authorize pay and benefits, not to exceed 6 weeks, to be paid to employee #900 and to authorize the Solicitor to draft an agreement.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett advised the Borough received a \$30,000 grant from Northampton County for the 2020 Celebration. He asked that a thank you letter be sent to the County.

Mayor Barrett advised due to the 20th anniversary of 9/11 the Wilson Football team wore special jerseys as a tribute. Mayor Barrett would also like to see a 9/11 memorial placed on Washington Blvd.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia presented the 2022 Pension MMOs (Minimum Municipal Obligations) for Council's Certification. She advised that approximately 90% of the Borough's pension obligations are funded by State Aid. The Borough's three pension plans are all fully funded.

Ms. Garcia requested Council's permission to go out for bid on the Sanitary Manhole rehab project. This is a project being paid for in part by a grant. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve. Second by Mr.

Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from West Easton Borough for a letter of support for West Easton's LSA Grant application. West Easton is applying for funds to remove the trestles over Iron and Spring Streets. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested permission to hire Ms. Elizabeth Peterson as a crossing guard. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested permission to hire Mr. Michael Losee as a part-time fire fighter. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

Mr. Lipari would like to investigate hosting a youth tennis tournament next spring/summer.

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

2020 COMMITTEE:

Mr. Burke advised the committee extended the deadline for vendor applications until September 18, 2021.

Mr. Burke advised that a portion of the funds granted by the County will be used for advertising such as billboards, yard signs, and radio spots.

Mr. Burke advised the fire works display will be held on October 16, 2021. Mr., Burke requested Council's permission for the Solicitor to draft a letter to Mrs. Conradi, whose home is in the fallout zone, stating that any debris will be removed from her property by Wilson Borough. A motion by Mr. Klass to approve. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Mr. Verenna requested Mr. Klass be placed on the Athletic Commission to fill the vacant seat. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

NONE

COG:

NONE

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

NONE

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$317,926.60. A motion made by Mr. Burke to approve. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Klass, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 8:48 pm. Second by Mr. Burke and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASURER